

THE SO-CALLED KEELED GARLIC OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA. —In 1901 the late N. L. Britton recorded in his Manual, 1046, as "**Allium carinatum** L. KEELED GARLIC", a plant which had appeared in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. In 1912 Mr. Bayard Long called attention to the occurrence, spread and characters of the Pennsylvania plant. This note was a brief one, in a report of a meeting of the Philadelphia Botanical Club in Barton, no. 5: 18 (1912). Two years later he published in Barton, no. 7: 6-16 (1914) a very detailed account of the plant in eastern Pennsylvania, in which he took exception, on many points, to the descriptions by Britton and to the illustration in Britton & Brown, Ill. Fl. ed. 2, i. 499, fig. 1247 (1913). Mr. Long's numerous corrections of the descriptions and illustration (just cited) are readily available. They need not here be repeated, although, in summary, they included the growth-habit, weak stem, spiraling or twisting of the flattened- and hard-tipped leaves, and the yellow-brown and green-suffused perianth about equaling the stamens. These characters, derived from accurate field-knowledge of the naturalized plant of eastern Pennsylvania, were in strong contrast with characters as given in the descriptions by Britton and the illustration in Britton & Brown: stamens long-exserted and "flowers . . . violet or rose".

When I came to this species in a recent study of *Allium* the reason for Mr. Long's finding the most significant characters of the Pennsylvania plant at variance with the Britton account became evident. Dr. Britton, instead of describing and accurately illustrating the Pennsylvania material, had followed up an original misidentification of it by taking from European sources the distinctive characters of European *A. carinatum*. This has caused perpetuation of an error, for the Pennsylvania plant, so clearly described by Mr. Long, is the common and generally recognized *A. oleraceum* L., one of the species known in Britain as Wild Garlic. The English name "Keeled Garlic", presumably not really used by the common people of Europe, no longer applies. What the "colloquial" name of the Pennsylvania plant may be, since it is *A. oleraceum*, not *A. carinatum*, I do not know. It is presumably not "Esculent Garlic". That the plant of eastern Pennsylvania is *A. oleraceum*, not *A. carina-*

tum, should be evident from the characterization of the two in Regel, *Alliorum adhuc cognitorum Monographia* (1875).

"170. *A. oleraceum* L. . . . sepalis oblongo-lanceolatis, obtusis v. subacutis; filamentis . . . perigonium subaequantibus . . . Folia . . . compresso-planiuscula, apicem versus saepe plana . . . Sepala rosea, albida, fusco-viridia v. lurida v. lurido-virescentes", etc.

"171. *A. carinatum* L. . . . folia lineari-canaliculata v. plana . . . ; sepalis ovato-oblongis, apice truncato-obtusis concavisque; filamentis . . . perigonium paullo-duplo superantibus; . . . Sepala . . . rosea v. violacea v. atrovioacea . . .

Sepalis obtusioribus apice conniventibus filamentisque perigonium superantibus a specie praecedente [*A. oleraceum*] diversum."

Again, Rouy, *Fl. Fr.* xii. 364, 365 (1910) separates, in the primary divisions of his key, *A. carinatum* and *A. oleraceum* as follows: "Etamines nettement saillantes, exsertes au moins du quart de la longueur du perigone", this leading to "Fleurs roses ou violacées" and to *A. carinatum*, etc.; "Etamines incluses, ou égalant env. le perigone", this leading directly to *A. oleraceum* with (p. 369) "*feuilles . . . tres rudes en dessous*" and in the typical form (his subvar. *virens*) "Fleurs verdâtres ou blanchâtres teintées de vert et de rose".

Although, as quoted by Long, l. c. 7, Dr. Britton thought that his illustration of a single flower, with round-tipped sepals and long-exserted stamens, had been drawn from a Pennsylvania specimen, it is not unlikely that it, like the description, was from a European source.—M. L. FERNALD.

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